



From : Joe Dorward  
Sent : 16 March 2013  
To : Jim Whyteside, David Frew  
Subject : Derry Lodge Information Poster

Jim and David,

I decided to license the content on [theuplandofmar.squarespace.com](http://theuplandofmar.squarespace.com) under 'Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 2.5 Generic License' because I want anyone to make use of the content any way they like as long as they say where it came from and don't use it commercially - that's what 'Attribution-Noncommercial' is about. In spite of our differences - as long as you give away any guides containing information derived from the website I'm happy for you to use it as long as you're clear about where that information came from.

When I read 'Mar Lodge woods and people' I was suspicious that it relied heavily on facts (especially dates) that, as far as I am aware, have not been published except on my website. I spend a lot of time, effort, and money doing historical research in original source documents in various archives and, as far as I am aware, much of what I uncover is published by me for the first time.

Yesterday (15th of March) I arrived at Derry Lodge and saw a notice board had been erected since my last visit. On it I saw a historical

overview of Derry Lodge and was intrigued by how specific some of the information was and by some of its strange phraseology. Today I consulted my historical overview of Derry Lodge - you'll know where this is going now - and was surprised (shall we say) at how similar they both are - for example :

Yours : "in the 1880s, Donald Fraser became the resident keeper at Derry Lodge where he lived with his wife and daughter until his death in 1913"

Mine : "In the 1880s Donald Fraser became the resident keeper at the lodge. He lived there for over twenty years with his wife Elizabeth, and daughter Mary until his death in 1913"

Yours : "After the Duke's Death in 1912, and Donald in 1913"

Mine : "after the death of the Duke of Fife in 1912, and Donald Fraser in 1913"

Yours : "During World War II the Cairngorms were used heavily for training and the lodge was occupied by the military"

Mine : "During the 1939-1945 war the Cairngorms were heavily used for training, and the lodge was occupied by the military"

I hope you will not strain my credulity by suggesting coincidence. I am not looking to embarrass anyone over this (shall we call it an error ?) after all I want people to use my content to inform themselves and others, but it is very annoying to see my work used this way without proper acknowledgement.

I'm not looking for an apology, but I would like you to acknowledge the fact of this 'error', to correct it by updating the poster with the url of the article <http://theuplandofmar.squarespace.com/derry-lodge/> and my name - and - if you use information from my website in the future that you will undertake to include the url of the article and my name.

A photograph of your highlighted poster is attached.

Joe

# Derry Lodge



1. Royal Party, including Edward, then Prince of Wales, pre 1892

was near the site of Derry Lodge in the 1850s. Originally just a single storey building, it would have provided modest accommodation for shooting parties, the size of the estate at that time. As a major drove road passed through the area, it would have been impractical for the estate to return to the main Lodge impractical. As a keeper's house, it would have had 1 or 2 bedrooms for guests, although in its modest form it was used mainly as a refreshment stop (in 1866 it had been expanded with the addition of dormers added into the original wing to improve the view). The need to impress guests was becoming important and the lodge was expanded in the 1880s to its current state, with the addition of a two storey east wing (with a new main entrance) and the brightening of the west wing to

## In its heyday

The later expansion was probably overseen by the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Fife, who became the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Fife in 1889 on his marriage to Queen Victoria's granddaughter, Princess Louise. Also around this time in the 1880s, Donald Fraser became the resident keeper at Derry Lodge where he lived with his wife and daughter until his death in 1913. The Duke used the lodge regularly with guests, including royalty – the Prince of Wales (father to the Duchess and later to be King Edward VII) was a frequent visitor (see photo 1). After the Duke's death in 1912, and Donald in 1913, the lodge was no longer occupied all year, the then keeper living in Luibeg Cottage across the river. There were other buildings associated with the lodge while in use as a hunting base, including stables (where the Mountain Rescue post stands) and a larder or cold store (the existing

4. 1955



## Latter years and now . . .

During World War II the Cairngorms were used heavily for training and the lodge was occupied by the military. From 1951 to 1967 it was occupied by the Cairngorm Club (the oldest hillwalking and climbing club in Scotland) and used as a mountain base. But it has remained empty ever since. The National Trust for Scotland bought Mar Lodge Estate in 1995, since when it has carried out remedial work on Derry Lodge to keep the main structure sound, in keeping with its listed status. A number of discussions have been held about its future. Now just the external shell, it is recognised that any use must fit with the Estate's management objectives of reducing vehicle use, promoting the long walk in, and maintaining the area as a wild space. Regardless of the building, many walkers and climbers still use the area as a base, adding a historical continuity with the past.